

At 2 p.m. on Saturday, February 7, I'll host an open town hall meeting at the Waukegan Public Library. We'll talk about key congressional issues, like jump starting our economy and bringing more jobs to the 10th District, ending "pay-to-play" practices that enabled former Governor Rod Blagojevich and my efforts to reign-in wasteful spending including killing an earmark for nearly a quarter-billion dollars to install a skating rink on the National Mall.

I also have asked the U.S. EPA to provide a brief update on the status of the cleanup of Waukegan Harbor – one of the most important economic development projects in northern Illinois.

From 1948 to 1971, Outboard Marine Corporation used approximately 8 million gallons of hydraulic fluid for die casting of engines. The fluid contained PCBs, which were dumped straight into Waukegan Harbor. Approximately 700,000 pounds of PCBs were present in the surrounding soil, and 300,000 pounds were present in the sediment of the harbor. In 2000, OMC declared bankruptcy, leaving cleanup efforts to the federal government.

Cleaning up Waukegan Harbor has been one of my top priorities, and after years of effort the EPA and I announced last fall a new federal plan to dredge the harbor, permanently removing the public health hazard to our community. According to a study from the Northeast-Midwest Institute, a clean harbor will add approximately \$800 million to Lake County property values and boost funding for local schools. In a time of economic uncertainty, the revitalization of the Harbor will bring more jobs and opportunities to our community.

10th District Town Hall Meeting
2 p.m.
Saturday, February 7
128 North County Street
Waukegan, IL

I hope you can join us on Saturday.